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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

IMAIZUMI et al.

Art Unit: 1652

Application No.: 10/023,711

Examiner: Christian L. Fronda

Filing Date: December 21, 2001

Attorney Ref. No.: US-1460

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING  
TARGET SUBSTANCE BY  
FERMENTATION

Confirmation No.: 6895

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 29, 2007, which set a 3-month shortened statutory period for response thereto, please consider the following arguments. Although not amended at this time, the claims have been re-printed below for the Examiner's convenience.

The claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5.